



Ocean Outfall Legislation

Chapter 2008-232 Laws of FL

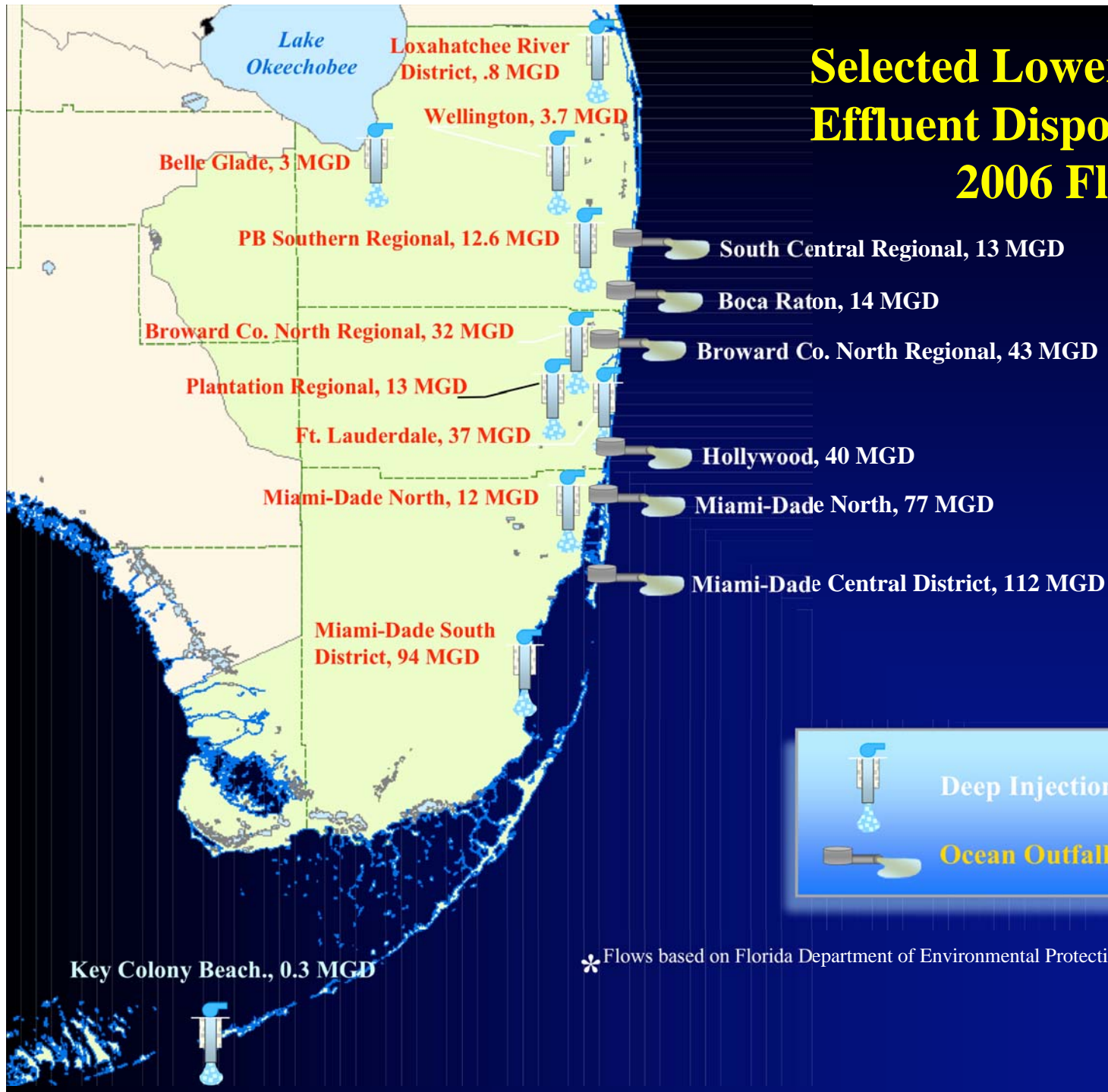
Effective July 1, 2008

Linda Brien

DEP

Water Facilities Administrator

Selected Lower East Coast Effluent Disposal Sites 2006 Flows



*Flows based on Florida Department of Environmental Protection's 2006 Reuse Inventory

Wastewater Treatment Level Comparison

	Minimum Secondary	Basic Secondary	Advanced WW Treatment (AWT)
Receiving Waters	Ocean Outfall	Large Rivers	Nutrient sensitive waters, shellfish areas
BOD and TSS % Removal	85%	90%	98%
BOD and TSS Concentration	30 mg/l	20 mg/l	5 mg/l
Nutrient Controls Total Nitrogen (TN) Total Phosphorus (TP)	NA	NA	3 mg/l TN 1 mg/l TP
Disinfection - Pathogen Control	Basic	Basic	High Level

Existing Outfall discharges TN 16-18, TP 1.5 -3: Brine Conc, TN 4.8-8.25, TP 1 - 2



Background

- No monitoring was required for years in the ocean.
- Reef Rescue first opposition to the Delray Outfall in PBC
- Surf Riders, Reef Relief, Cry of the Water, second opposition to the Lake Worth water treatment plant brine concentrate disposal through an abandoned outfall
- Strong public opinion that it is unacceptable to discharge WW effluent to the ocean
- Elevated to a legislative committee: Heard many presentations including from Dr. Jurado, Albert Perez, and Pat Davis for Broward.
- Senate and House Voted Unanimously for the Bill



Immediate Actions:

- Prohibits new domestic wastewater discharge ocean outfalls
- Prohibits expansion of existing outfalls and limits the outfalls to their current permitted discharge capacity

The Bill allows maintenance of the existing outfalls and related pumps and pipes.





The Bill includes:

- Wastewater Treatment and Management Requirements
- Minimum Reuse Requirements
- Outfall Wet Weather Discharge Allowances
- Plan & Report Submittals
- Opportunities/incentives for Reuse in the region to Support Outfall Elimination



Wastewater Treatment and Management

In 9 years (Dec 2018) there will be a dramatic reduction in the amount of pollutants, especially nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), discharged to the coastal environment.

- This reduction will occur through either,
 - Significant increase in the level of treatment to the current wastewater discharges (called advanced waste treatment or **AWT**), or
 - Significant decrease in the volume of wastewater discharged (loading reduction same as **AWT**)
 - 80-90% nutrient load reduction is estimated
 - Provides incentive for early reductions in nutrient discharges

South Central Regional WWTP





Reuse Requirements

- By Dec 2025 use of the outfalls for wastewater disposal will be eliminated
- Requires 60% of outfall facility flows to be reused
 - Provides flexibility in meeting the 60% reuse requirement
 - Flows diverted to other facilities for reuse count toward meeting 60% requirement
 - Utilities operating more than one outfall (Miami-Dade County) are allowed to average reuse flows among the outfall facilities
- Outfalls may only be used after 2025 to discharge wet weather flows from reuse systems during times when reclaimed water cannot be used



Reuse Requirements

- 60% reuse is calculated from existing 2003 – 2007 annual avg discharge flows.
- The reuse requirement makes use of a valuable water resource and discourages diverting all the flows to underground injection wells.
- However, an injection well can be considered reuse, either as an aquifer storage and recovery well (ASR) or a recharge well to recharge the upper Floridan Aquifer.

Pompano Beach Reuse Plant





Outfall Wet Weather Discharge allowance

Wet weather discharges are allowed from outfalls after December 31, 2025

- Must be a part of a functioning reuse system
- Must meet AWT & management requirements



Required Submittals:

- Initial plan is due 7/1/13, with an update due 7/1/16
- Summary report is due to the DEP Secretary by 12/31/09 and by 12/31 every five years thereafter
- Progress Report from DEP to the Governor, the Senate President and the Speaker of the HR no later than 7/1/10



Reuse Incentives

- Provides priority points under State Revolving Loan program for projects that eliminate ocean outfalls
- Directs WMD to give priority in funding assistance to reuse projects that assist in eliminating outfalls
- Directs WMD to include projects in their regional water supply plans that support eliminating outfalls
- Authorizes WMD to make reclaimed water produced by the ocean outfall facilities a preferred alternative water supply when evaluating CUPs



Other Provisions

Bill titled “Leah Schad Memorial Ocean Outfall Program”

Establishes a funding mechanism (should funding become available in future) and a dedicated account w/in the Ecosystem Management and Restoration Trust Fund – Pollution Control Financial Assistance to assist in implementation.



Questions